

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1-27 were rejected. Claims 9, 18, 27 were deemed allowable if rewritten to overcome 35 U.S.C. 112 indefiniteness rejections and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging the allowable subject matter. With this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 9-10, 12, 18-19, 21, and 27 were amended and claims 2, 11, and 20 were canceled without prejudice. Accordingly, claims 1, 3-10, 12-19, and 21-27 remain at issue.

I. Objection To Drawings

The Examiner requested that Figures 1 and 2 be designated --Prior Art-- because purportedly only that which is old is illustrated. Applicants have amended the drawings to provide the designations and, thus, respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

II. Double Patenting Rejection Of Claims

The Examiner provisionally rejected claims 1-27 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-2, 13-14, and 25-26 of co-pending Application No. 10/023,008, entitled "Scriptable Plug-in Application Programming Interface."

Applicants submit that neither this Application nor copending Application No. 10/023,008 have allowed claims to date. Therefore, Applicants assert that it is premature to file a terminal disclaimer to overcome the provisional rejection. If the situation arises that there are claims allowed claims in this Application or Application No. 10/023,008, Applicants will revisit the issue of whether a terminal disclaimer is necessary. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully decline the Examiner's invitation to file a terminal disclaimer at this time.

III. 35 U.S.C. § 112 Indefiniteness Rejection of Claims

Claims 9, 18, and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being purportedly indefinite for not clearly identifying a first pluglet manager interface and a first pluglet tag information interface before identifying a second pluglet manager interface and a second pluglet tag information interface, respectively.

Applicants have amended claim 9, 18, and 27 to correct for the noted informalities and respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

In addition, claims 9, 18, and 27 have been rewritten in independent form, including limitations of the respective base claim. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 9, 18, and 27 are in condition for allowance.

IV. 35 U.S.C. § 103 Obviousness Rejection of Claims

Claims 1-8, 10-17, and 19-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over purportedly admitted prior art (APA) on pages 1-7 of the present Application in view of *Bandhauer* “A zero generated code XPConnect proposal.” Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

In the Office Action, the Examiner cites “admitted prior art” against claims 1-8, 10-17, and 19-26. Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner’s assertion of “admitted prior art.” Applicants never admitted that the cited portions of the specification were “prior art” as defined by law (See M.P.E.P. 2129 and 35 U.S.C. § 102).

With respect to independent Claim 1 as amended, Applicants teach and claim an Application Programming Interface (API) that includes, among other elements, a platform-independent plug-in API having a wrapper that is operably configured to connect the platform-

independent plug in API to an intermediary for communication to a browser plug-in API. Applicants further teach and claim that the “wrapper includes a plurality of Interface Description Language (IDL) compliant interfaces, each IDL compliant interface being operably configured to connect a respective one of said platform-independent plug-in API interfaces to said intermediary.” Independent claims 10 and 19 have similar limitations as claim 1 for the wrapper of the platform independent Plug-in API.

Specifically, Applicants teach that by creating an IDL compliant wrapper interface for each platform independent Plug-in API interface (e.g., written in Java), the wrapper interfaces allow the Plug-in API to be compatible with an XPCOM intermediary for seamless communication to a non-scriptable Browser Plug-in API (e.g., written in C++) that is wrapped with a Scriptable Plug-in API. (See Application at page 14, line 18 - page 26; Figs. 5 & 7)

This is clearly unlike *Bandhauer*, which teaches away from creating respective IDL compliant wrapper interfaces. *Bandhauer* discloses creating proxy objects to “handle wrapping JavaScript objects to be called from C++” objects where the proxy objects use “a shared vtbl [i.e., virtual method table] and stub methods on a per interface basis.” See *Bandhauer* at pg 4 para 5-6. *Bandhauer* fails to disclose the claim 1 limitation that the “wrapper includes a plurality of Interface Description Language (IDL) compliant interfaces, each IDL compliant interface being operably configured to connect a respective one of said platform-independent plug-in API interfaces to said intermediary.” Thus, *Bandhauer*, alone or in combination with other cited references, fails to teach all the limitations of independent claims 1, 10, and 19.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to claims 1, 10, and 19 request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 3-8 depend from independent claim 1, claims 12-17 depend from independent claim 10, and claims 21-27 depend from independent claim 19. Thus, each of the dependent claims should be deemed allowable for at least the same reasons as given for claims 1, 10, and 19.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to claims 3-8, 12-17, and 21-27 be withdrawn.

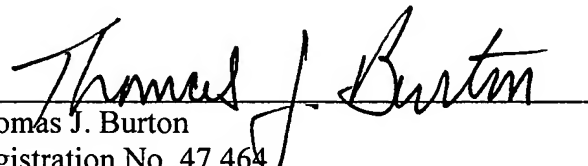
V. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all claims are clearly allowable over the cited prior art, and respectfully requests early and favorable notification to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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Amendment

Application No. 10/021,915

IN THE DRAWINGS

Applicant submits two replacement sheets containing Figures 1 and 2 to identify prior art designations. No new matter has been added.